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## BOOK REVIEWS

important matter. Copious quotations from newspapers and speeches show in startling fashion how far the reaction went—how generally it came to be believed that "although the foremost republic in the world has its virtues, it is perhaps controlled as much by self-interest and as little by altruism as any other nation in the world;" and the volume closes with the cheerless thought, not only that America, despite all her effort, managed merely to disillusion her European friends, but also that the most that one dare hope for the world at large is that each war and each peace conference henceforth may yield "some betterment" and "some progress." FREDERIC A. Org.

## La cuestion de Tacna y Arica. E. Castro y Oyanguren. Lima: Impr. del Estado. 1919. pp. 93.

The outcome of the World War and the announced principles upon which it was fought by the Allies have served to reinvigorate the longstanding claims of various countries based upon alleged wrongdoing of other nations. Prominent among these claims is that of Peru against Chile, arising out of the non-performance of Article 3 of the Treaty of Ancon of October 20, 1883, concluding the war of the Pacific, according to which "the provinces of Tacna and Arica . . . shall continue in the possession of Chile, subject to Chilean legislation and authority for a period of ten years. . . At the expiration of that term, a plebiscite will decide by popular vote, whether the territory . . . is to remain definitely under the dominion and sovereignty of Chile or is to continue to constitute a part of Peru."

The plebiscite has never been held, and the provinces are still controlled by Chile. Naturally, a controversy, resting on Peruvian assertions of bad faith on the part of Chile, has been raging ever since between the two countries, manifested in a voluminous polemic literature and a wealth of diplomatic correspondence. Peru in particular has untiringly sought to bring her case to the attention of the world, and the recovery of the "lost provinces" is the central point of her foreign policy.

The pamphlet under review is one among many presenting the Peruvian argument in the controversy. It is, in essence, an epitome of the more elaborate work of Dr. Victor M. Maurtua (published in 1901), which it supplements by adducing some recent documents. It embodies the history since 1842, when Chile, with the discovery of guano north of 27°, began her penetration northwards, and emphasizes the negotiations before, during, and subsequent to the war of 1879-1883, in order to show the intent of the negotiators with respect to Article 3 of the treaty of Ancon. It concludes with an appendix containing the circular instruction of the Peruvian Minister of Foreign Affairs of February 14, 1919, which constitutes a reply to a similar Chilean instruction of December, 1918, summarizing the respective contentions of the parties. The author deals with the negotiations subsequent to 1894, when the plebiscite should have been held, to show the efforts of Chile to prevent its execution. He also points out Chile's uniform resistance to arbitration of the dispute, including her opposition to the principle of arbitration enunciated in a resolution at the Pan-American Congress of 1889, on which Chile abstained from voting.

The author might have mentioned Chile's arguments in support of her position, namely, that the plebiscite was a mere formality, intended to "save the faces" of the Peruvian negotiators with their own people; that an unconditional cession was intended; that Chilean "capital and workers" had made the territory productive; that the territory was ceded as "reparation" for the war losses of Chile; and that it was needed for the military security of Chile.

Impartial study and the effort to make the strongest Chilean case possible but emphasize its essential weakness and lack of substance. The above contentions of Chile are not, it is believed, sustainable from the record; and it can hardly be doubted that Chile has had little or no desire to have the plebiscite held. The reason is clear: being already in control of the territory, and having the physical force to maintain such control, she had no interest in jeopardizing her position. Recent events in Europe would indicate that reliance upon force is still the major sanction of international relations and the keynote of the foreign policy of many nations. Nevertheless, Chile has exposed herself to the continued propaganda of what is essentially a valid claim of Peru, and the dispute, unless settled. threatens the peace of the American continent and the moral standing of Chile. The pamphlet under review manifests much patriotic fervor. apparently inseparable from the polemics to which the dispute has on both sides given rise.

EDWIN M. BORCHARD.

## De internationaalrechtelijke betrekkingen tusschen Nederland en Venezuela, 1816-1920. By K. H. Corporaal, LL.D., Pol.Sc.D. Leiden: Eduard Ydo. 1920. pp. 672.

President Cleveland in one of the Princeton lectures he delivered after retiring from public life has demonstrated to what extent the relations between Venezuela and European states may affect America's attitude towards both. A book therefore dealing with Venezuela's relations with another country must be of interest to Americans; especially when—as in the present instance—that other country has colonial possessions in the Caribbean.

This is a book of applied political science, in which the author considers problems diplomatic, political, legal and economic as they actually arose between two countries of our day. By far the greater part is a lucid and

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